

HOUSE BILL 1615

By Russell

AN ACT to amend Chapter 229 of the Private Acts of 1927; as amended and rewritten by Chapter 74 of the Private Acts of 1975; Chapter 184 of the Private Acts of 1988; Chapter 86 of the Private Acts of 2008; and any other acts amendatory thereto, relative to the city council in the City of Loudon.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Chapter 229 of the Private Acts of 1927, as amended and rewritten by Chapter 74 of the Private Acts of 1975, Chapter 184 of the Private Acts of 1988, Chapter 86 of the Private Acts of 2008, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting Article III, Section 3 and substituting the following:

SECTION 3. Voter qualification requirements. Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older who is a resident of the City of Loudon and qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly and other civil officers for Loudon County shall be entitled to vote in elections for Mayor and Councilmen. The same qualifications for voting in all other City elections or referenda shall apply unless otherwise provided by law.

The Mayor and Councilmen elected hereunder as herein provided for shall assume office on the first Monday in December following their election.

SECTION 2. Chapter 229 of the Private Acts of 1927, as amended and rewritten by Chapter 74 of the Private Acts of 1975, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting Article IV, Section 1 and substituting the following:

SECTION 1. Composition, election, term of office, re-election and ties. The governing body of the City shall consist of a mayor and four (4) council members to be known officially as the "City Council" or "Council". There shall be elected by the qualified voters of the City a mayor and four (4) council members. The mayor shall be elected for a term of four (4) years. To establish staggered terms, the Council shall be elected in two groups known as "Group A" and "Group B" during the regular November election in

2022. Group A shall consist of two (2) of the council members, and Group B shall consist of two (2) council members. On the date of the regular November election in 2022, Group A will be elected for a term of four (4) years, and Group B will be elected for a term of two (2) years. For the regular November election in 2022, each candidate for council shall designate the group for which the candidate seeks election, and all voters in the city may vote for two (2) candidates for each designated group. The two (2) candidates for each group of council members receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected. The terms of all council members thereafter elected shall be for four (4) years, or until their successors are elected and qualified. After the November election in 2022, the designation of "Group A" and "Group B" will cease to exist. There shall be a nonpartisan, at large, general municipal election held every two (2) years to the end that the council members shall serve four (4) year staggered terms. Present incumbents in the positions of mayor and council members shall continue to serve for the terms to which they were elected and until such time as their successors are elected and qualified.

Any council member shall be eligible for re-election. In the event that two (2) or more candidates for the same position receive the same number of votes at any election for council member, the outgoing Council shall, at a general or special meeting held prior to the beginning of the term of the newly elected council member or members, determine by lot which of said candidates shall take office.

SECTION 3. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of the City of Loudon. Its approval or nonapproval shall be proclaimed by the presiding officer of the legislative body and certified to the secretary of state.

SECTION 4. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, it shall become effective as provided in Section 3.